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No. 85-2071

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER TERM, 1985

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA
Petitioner,

v.

JAMES LESTER POST, JR.
Respondent.

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

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June, 1986

QUESTIONS PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

1. Whether the right to privacy under the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution includes the right to select consensual adult sex partners and extends to matters of sexual gratification between consenting adults.

2. Whether the State is required to demonstrate a compelling justification for prohibiting certain non-procreative sexual conduct between consenting adults.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
QUESTIONS PRESENTED FOR REVIEW . . .	i
OPINION BELOW.	1
RELEVANT CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS	2
STATEMENT OF THE CASE.	3
REASONS FOR GRANTING THE PETITION	5
CONCLUSION	15
APPENDIX A	1a

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Page

Cases:

Berryman v. State, 283 P.2d 558 (Okla.Crim.App. 1955) 5

Board of Education of the City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma v. National Gay Task Force, 105 S.Ct. 1858 (1985) 12

Bowers v. Hardwick, 760 F.2d 1202 (11th Cir. 1984) 7,8

Carey v. Population Services International, 431 U.S. 678 (1977). 9,10

Doe v. Commonwealth, 425 U.S. 901 (1976). 6

Dunn v. Blumstein, 405 U.S. 330 (1972). 9

Lockner v. New York, 198 U.S. 45 (1905) 13

National Gay Task Force v. Board of Education of the City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 727 F.2d 1270 (10th Cir. 1984). 12

Post v. State, 715 P.2d 1105 (Okla.Crim.App. 1986) 2

Rose v. Locke, 423 U.S. 48 (1975). 6,7

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Page

Cases:

Shapiro v. Thompson, 394 U.S. 618 (1969). 13

Stanley v. Georgia, 394 U.S. 557 (1969). 10

Wainwright v. Stone, 414 U.S. 21 (1973) 7

Statutes:

28 U.S.C. § 1257(3) 2

Fla.Stat. § 800.01 (Supp. 1973). 7

Okla.Stat.Ann. tit. 21, § 886 (West 1983) 3,4,5,12

Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-707 (1955). 7

Va. Code § 18.1-212 (1950). . . 6

Other Authorities Cited:

3 Jonathan Elliot, Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution 186 (1836) 14

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Page

Other Authorities Cited:

8 Writings of Thomas Jefferson, 427 (P.L. Ford ed. 1897) 14

U.S. Const., amend XIV 2,13

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PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI
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OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

The Petitioner, the State of Oklahoma, by the Attorney General of Oklahoma, Michael C. Turpen, respectfully prays that a Writ of Certiorari issue to review the judgment of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals in this matter.

OPINION BELOW

The decision of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals from which certiorari is sought was reported as Post v. State, 715

P.2d 1105 (Okla. Crim. App. 1986). See Appendix A. This opinion was filed on February 26, 1986, and the State of Oklahoma's (herein referred to as "the State") Petition for Rehearing was denied on April 14, 1986. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1257 (3).

RELEVANT CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS

The Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides in part:

> All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Okla.Stat.Ann. tit. 21, § 886 (West 1983), provides:

> Every person who is guilty of the detestable and abominable crime against nature, committed with mankind or with a beast, is punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary not exceeding ten (10) years.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The Respondent, James Lester Post, Jr., (herein referred to as the "defendant"), was convicted of two counts of the crime of Crime Against Nature, Okla. Stat.Ann. tit. 21, § 886 (West 1983). At the same trial the defendant was also convicted of the crime of Maiming, After Former Conviction of a Felony, and was acquitted of the crime of Rape in the First Degree.

The crimes for which the defendant was tried arose from a situation where the defendant and the victim met at a bar. The victim accepted the defendant's invi-

tation to come to his house to watch television and drink beer. The victim claimed that while she was at the defendant's house, the defendant forced her to have intercourse and oral and anal sodomy. These incidents were the basis for the rape charge and the two counts involving the offense of Crime Against Nature.

The victim also testified that the defendant beat her, causing a severe injury and the subsequent loss of her eye, although a preexisting condition made the eye highly susceptible to injury. The Maiming conviction was based on his assault.

The Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals reversed both Crime Against Nature convictions, holding that the application of Okla.Stat.Ann. tit. 21, § 886 (West 1983) was a violation of the defendant's federally protected right to privacy. The

court also reversed the Maiming conviction because the trial court did not instruct the jury on the lesser included offense of simple and aggravated assault and battery.

It is from the reversal of the two Crimes Against Nature convictions that the State of Oklaoma seeks relief by way of this Petition of a Writ of Certiorari.

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE PETITION

In the present case, the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals held that Oklahoma's Crime Against Nature statute, Okla. Stat.Ann. tit. 21, § 886 (West 1983) (See Appendix A, herein referred to as "A.___"), violated the United States Constitution as being an infringement on the right to privacy.[1] The court stated that:

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[1] This statute has been interpreted as prohibiting sodomy and all acts of bestial or unnatural copulation. See Berryman v. State, 283 P.2d 558, 561-63 (Okla.Crim.App. 1955).

> [T]he right to privacy, as forumulated by the United States Supreme Court, includes the right to select consensual adult sex partners.

(A. 16a).

The Court also held that "[e]xercise of this right cannot be proscribed by the State in the absence of a compelling justification." (A. 16a).

The State of Oklahoma (herein referred to as "the State") first points out that this Court has previously upheld similar statutes against constitutional challenges based on vagueness grounds. Doe v. Commonwealth, 425 U.S. 901 (1976);[2] Rose

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[2] The Virginia statute in Doe was as follows:

> § 18.1-212. Crimes against nature.- If any person shall carnally know in any manner any brute animal, or carnally known any male or female person by the anus or by or with the mouth, or voluntarily submit to such

v. Locke, 423 U.S. 48 (1975);[3] Wainwright v. Stone, 414 U.S. 21 (1973).[4]

More importantly, this Court is presently considering the case of Bowers v. Hardwick, 760 F.2d 1202 (11th Cir. 1984),

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[2] (Continued)
carnal knowledge, he or she shall be guilty of a felony and shall be confined in the penitentiary not less than one year nor more than three years.

[3] The Tennessee statute in Rose read:

> 39-707. Crime against nature-Penalty.-Crimes against nature, either with mankind or any beast, are punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary not less than five (5) years nor more than fifteen (15) years.

[4] The Florida statute in Wainwright provided:

> Fla.Stat. § 800.01 (Supp. 1973). Whoever commits the abominable and detestable crime against nature, either with mankind or with beast, shall be guilty of a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in [other statutory sections].

cert. granted 106 S.Ct. 342 (1985) (No. 85-140). The State contends that this Court's decision will be dispositive of the issues in the present case, particularly since the Eleventh Circuit in Bowers and the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals in the present case based their decision on identical federal constitutional principles.

The State submits that both the Eleventh Circuit in Bowers and the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals were incorrect in their holdings. Those courts erred in holding that the United States Constitution requires that a state must present a "compelling" justification or interest before prohibiting certain sexual conduct. See Hardwick, 760 F.2d at 1213. Furthermore, the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals was incorrect in its holding that the right to privacy "includes the

right to select consensual adult sexual partners." (A. 16a).

The United States Constitution should not be interpreted so as to place the burden upon a State to demonstrate a "compelling" reason why certain non-procreative sexual conduct is prohibited. Cf. Dunn v. Blumstein, 405 U.S. 330 (1972). Obviously, sodomy does not involve the decision to procreate and therefore state laws preventing this type of conduct does not infringe upon this right. Cf. Carey v. Population Services International, 431 U.S. 678, 686 (1977) ("where a decision as fundamental as that whether to bear or beget a child is involved, regulations imposing a burden on it may be justified only by compelling state interests, ...").

Furthermore, the right to engage in sodomy is not one of those personal deci-

sions which this Court has held must be made without unjustified governmental interference. See Carey, 431 U.S. at 684-85.

The State respectfully contends that the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals also was in error when it held that this Court has "extended the right of privacy to matters of sexual gratification" (A. 15a), citing Stanley v. Georgia, 394 U.S. 557 (1969). Stanley dealt only with the right of a person to read obscene materials in his or her own home, a right clearly encompassed by the First Amendment. To expand the holding in Stanley to include conduct undertaken for "sexual gratification" as being within the First Amendment's protection is not justified by a reading of that case or by cases involving the right to decide whether to procreate.

The State's main objection is to the contitutional theory upon which the decision in the present case is based. The State believes that the act of sodomy, even if it is consensual, is not a fundamental right for which the State must show a compelling state interest in order to justify prohibition of such.

To hold otherwise would thrust courts into the role of deciding which specific sexual acts are protected by the United States Constitution. This point is underscored by the Court of Criminal Appeals' statment that:

> We stress that our decision today in no way affects the validity of 21 O.S. 1981, § 886 in its application to bestiality, forced sexual activity, sexual activity of the underaged, or public or commercial sexual acts.

(A. 18a).

The State contends that the judicial branch of the government should not be the

institution which decides whether consensual acts of sodomy involving heterosexual persons, or homosexual persons, or people and animals, or adults and minors, are to be prohibited.[5]

The dangers of using a "constitutional right to privacy" as a basis for courts to use to invalidate legislation are obvious. In the past, the Supreme Court

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[5] In Board of Education of the City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma v. National Gay Task Force, 105 S.Ct. 1858 (1985), this Court left standing an opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. See National Gay Task Force v. Board of Education of the City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 727 F.2d 1270 (10th Cir. 1984), which invalidated an Oklahoma state statute which gave a school board the right to discharge teachers who advocate violations of Okla.Stat.Ann. tit. 21, § 886 (West 1983), the statute in issue in the present case. If the Court of Criminal Appeals' opinion in the present case is allowed to stand, presumably the State would be unable to discharge a teacher for engaging in acts of private consensual sodomy without violating that teacher's rights under the Fourteenth Amendment.

as criticized for interpreting the due rocess clause of the Fourteenth Amendment n such a way that social legislation was eclared unconstitutional, but the use of he same clause to set aside a statute egarded as ill-advised based upon a right to privacy" theory is also inappro-riate. Cf. Lockner v. New York, 198 U.S. 5 (1905).

Since the right to privacy is nowhere ntioned in the United States Constitu-ion, and is therefore a product of judi-ial construction, there is no limit as to hat state laws might be invalidated under his theory.[6] One of the great legal pro-

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[6] In his dissenting opinion in Sha-iro v. Thompson, 394 U.S. 618, 677 1969), Justice Harlan observed:

> Today's decision, it seems to me, reflects to an unusual degree the current notion that this Court possesses a peculiar wisdom all its own whose capacity to lead this Nation out of its present troubles

tections is a written constitution, and to allow judges to discover rights not specifically designated defeats the purpose of such.[7]

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[6] (Continued)
is contained only by the limits of judicial ingenuity in contriving new constitutional principles to meet each problem as it arises.

[7] In the Virginia Ratification Convention Richard Henry Lee stated that "[w]hen a question arises with respect to the legality of any power, exercised or assumed, [the question will be] 'Is it enumerated in the Constitution? If it be, it is legal and just. It is otherwise arbitrary and unconstitutional." 3 Jonathan Elliot, Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution 186 (1836). (Emphasis original).

Thomas Jefferson has also written:

> Our peculiar security is in possession of a written Constitution. Let us not make it a blank paper by construction. If [power is boundless] then we have no Constitution. If it has bounds, they can be no other than the definition of the powers which that instrument gives.

Letter to Wilson Cary Nicholas, September 7, 1803, 8 Writings of Thomas Jefferson, 427 (P.L. Ford ed. 1897).

Therefore, the State respectfully submits that the right to privacy under the United States Constitution does not include "the right to select consensual adult sex partners." (A. 16a).

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated, it is respectfully requested that the State's Petition for a Writ of Certiorari be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

James Lester POST Jr., Appellant,

v.

STATE of Oklahoma, Appellee.
No. F-84-303.

Court of Criminal Appeals of Oklahoma.
Feb. 26, 1986.

Rehearing Denied April 14, 1986.

OPINION

PARKS, Presiding Judge:

The appellant, James Lester Post, Jr., was charged by Information in the District Court of Rogers County, Case No. CRF-83-17, for the offense of Rape, two counts of the Crime Against Nature, and Maiming, After Former Conviction of a Felony. A jury acquitted the appellant of Rape, but convicted him for the two counts of Crime Against Nature, and Maiming. The jury recommended a sentence of ten (10) years on each count of the Crime Against

Nature, and fifteen (15) years imprisonment for Maiming. We reverse.

According to the testimony produced by the State, the alleged victim, H.C., went to the Red Eye Saloon in Claremore, Oklahoma on the morning of January 7, 1983. While at the saloon, she met the appellant, who invited her to his house to watch television and drink beer. H.C. accepted the appellant's invitation. The pair left the bar, purchased some beer at a nearby store, and went to appellant's home. When they arrived at the house, appellant allegedly demanded sex. H.C. claimed she was forced, at knife-point, to have sex with the appellant. She also claimed appellant anally sodomized her and forced her to commit an act of fellatio. As appellant sexually assaulted her, he also repeatedly beat her and caused a severe injury to her eye, according to

H.C.'s testimony. Finally, the appellant allowed H.C. to dress, and they left the house together. H.C. and the appellant eventually separated, and H.C. went to a friend's house and called her husband.

Dr. Raymond Townsend, an ophthalmologist, testified H.C. was blinded in the eye, which eventually was surgically removed. He also testified that H.C. had previously received eye surgery, which had rendered her eyes highly susceptible to injury. A forensic chemist testified that swabs taken during a rape examination of H.C. indicated the presence of sperm in the rectum.

Appellant testified that he met H.C. at the bar, and asked her to go to the house with him. He claimed all of the sexual acts, including anal intercourse and oral copulation, were voluntarily performed by H.C. After completing these sex

acts, the appellant fell asleep. He awoke suddenly when he discovered H.C. going through his pants pockets. Appellant testified he believed H.C. was attempting to steal his money, and he struck her in anger several times, though he did not intend to injure her. He and H.C. then dressed and left the house together. After walking several blocks together, H.C. asked that appellant not accompany her any further, as she would not be able to explain his presence to her husband.

On his appeal to this Court, the appellant raises seven assignments of error challenging each of the convictions, and the sentences imposed.

I.

We first deal with appellant's claim that his convictions for the Crime Against

Nature, 21 O.S.1981, § 886,[1] rest on an unconstitutional basis. Appellant has asserted his claim on two grounds: First, he claims the statute is unconstitutionally vague. Second, he claims the statute, as applied to non-violent consensual activity between adults in private, violates his right to privacy under the United States Constitution. Because we agree with appellant's second claim, we need not address the first.

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[1] 21 O.S.1981, § 886 defines the Crime Against Nature as follows:

> Every person who is guilty of the detestable and abominable crime against nature, committed with mankind or with a beast, is punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary not exceeding ten (10) years.

We have determined that the Crime Against Nature includes unnatural sex acts including copulation per os between females [Warner v. State, 489 P.2d 526 (Okl.Cr. 1971)], cunnilingus [Clayton v. State, 695 P.2d 3 (Okl.Cr.1984)], fellatio [Ex Parte DeFord, 14 Okl.Cr. 133, 168 P. 538 (1917)], and rectal coitus (copulation per anus) [Berryman v. State, 283 P.2d 558 (Okl.Cr. 1955)].

In this case, as noted above, the jury was presented with evidence alleging two entirely different scenarios. The prosecutrix, by and through the State, presented testimony that the appellant used threats and violence to rape, sodomize, and force her to commit an act of fellatio. The appellant, however, claimed the prosecutrix was a willing participant in the sexual activities which occurred on the day in question. He claimed the eye injury was inflicted after the sexual activities had ceased. Appellant was charged with two counts alleging commission of the Crime Against Nature, one count of Rape, and a count of Maiming. By its statutory language, the Crime Against Nature prohibits consensual, as well as nonconsensual, acts of unnatural copulation. See Slaughterback v. State, 594 P.2d 780 (Okl.Cr.1979). Accordingly, the

jury was instructed that consensual intercourse would not constitute rape,[2] but no mention was made of consent as a factor in the Crime Against Nature. During its deliberations the jury sent a note asking the trial court whether the Crime Against Nature is "a crime with or without consent in the State of Oklahoma? [sic]". The trial court instructed the jury that "consent is not an element [of the Crime Against Nature], nor is the crime less of a crime if committed with a consenting person." The jury returned a verdict of guilty on both counts of the Crime Against Nature, but acquitted the appellant on the Rape charge. Appellant alleges the convictions for the Crime Against Nature cannot be permitted to stand, as they are violative of his right to privacy. Al-

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2. See 21 O.S.1981, §§ 1111, 1114.

though we previously rejected a similar claim in Warner v. State, 489 P.2d 526 (Okl.Cr.1971), we agree that more recent decisions of the United States Supreme Court lend support to appellant's view.

The right to privacy asserted by this appellant is not explicitly mentioned either in the text or amendments to the Federal Constitution; yet it has been called "the most comprehensive of rights and the right most valued by civilized man." Olmstead v. United States, 277 U.S. 438, 478, 48 S.Ct. 564, 572, 72 L.Ed.2d [sic] 944 (1928) (Brandeis, J., dissenting). This right, as we understand it, is the "right of independence in making certain kinds of important decisions, with a concomitant right to conduct oneself in accordance with those decisions, undeterred by governmental restraint. . ." People v. Onofre, 51 N.Y.2d 476, 485, 415

N.E.2d 936, 939, 434 N.Y.S.2d 947, 949 (1980). Accord Lovisi v. Slayton, 363 F.Supp. 620, 625-26 (E.D.Va.1973), aff'd, 539 F.2d 349 (4th Cir. 1976). The modern judicial conception of constitutional privacy originated in Griswold v. Connecticut, 381 U.S. 479, 85 S.Ct. 1678, 14 L.Ed.2d 510 (1965). In Griswold, the Supreme Court found the existence of an implicit constitutional right of privacy in the "penumbras" of various constitutional provisions. Writing for the Court, Justice Douglas declared "that specific guarantees in the Bill of Rights have penumbras, formed by emanations from those guarantees that help give them life and substance." Id. at 484, 85 S.Ct. at 1681. This implicit guarantee of privacy makes "fully meaningful" the express rights

contained in the documents.[3] Justice Goldberg, joined by the Chief Justice and Justice Brennan, specially concurred "to emphasize the relevance of [the Ninth] Amendment to the Court's holding."[4] Id.

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[3] More specifically, Justice Douglas stated that "[v]arious guarantees create zones of privacy. The right of association contained in the penumbra of the First Amendment is one . . . [t]he Third Amendment in its prohibition against the quartering of soldiers 'in any house' in time of peace without the consent of the owner is another facet of that privacy. The Fourth Amendment explicitly affirms the 'right of people, to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures.' The Fifth Amendment in its Self-Incrimination Clause enables the citizen to create a zone of privacy which government may not force him to surrender to his detriment. The Ninth Amendment provides: 'The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.'" Id.

[4] Justice Goldberg did not believe that "penumbras" were necessary in Constitutional analysis because the Court had previously held that:

at 487, 85 S.Ct. at 1683 (Goldberg, J., concurring).

When we first were faced with this issue of extramartial [sic] sexual privacy in Warner v. State, 489 P.2d 526, we were limited in consideration of Supreme Court cases to Griswold v. Connecticut, supra. Griswold held, based on the principles explained above, that the State could not constitutionally regulate the distribution of contraceptives to married

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[4] (Continued)
the Fourteenth Amendment absorbs and applies to the States those specifics of the first eight amendments which express fundamental personal rights. The language and history of the Ninth Amendment reveal that the Framers of the Constitution believed that there are additional fundamental rights, protected from governmental infringement, which exist alongside those fundamental rights specifically mentioned in the first eight constitutional amendments.

Id. at 488, 85 S.Ct. at 1683-84.

persons. Certain language in the opinion indicated that this "right to privacy" was limited to decisions made, and acts committed, within the marital relationship. Justice Douglas had written:

> We deal with a right of privacy older than the Bill of Rights-older than our political parties, older than our school system. Marriage is a coming together for better or for worse, hopefully enduring, and intimate to the degree of being sacred. It is an association that promotes a way of life, not causes; a harmony in living, not political faiths; a bilateral loyalty, not commercial or social projects. Yet it is an association for as noble a purpose as any involved in our prior decisions.

Id. at 486, 85 S.Ct. at 1682. We accordingly held that "the United States Supreme Court, in the landmark case of Griswold v. State of Connecticut, supra, does not prohibit the state's regulation of sexual promiscuity or misconduct between non-married person." Warner v. State, 489 P.2d at 528.

We are now informed that "the outer limits" of the right to privacy "have not been marked by the Court." Carey v. Population Servs Int., 431 U.S. 678, 684, 97 S.Ct. 2010, 2016, 52 L.Ed.2d 675 (1977). Indeed, Eisenstadt v. Baird, 405 U.S. 438, 92 S.Ct. 1029, 31 L.Ed.2d 349 (1972) indicates to us that the constitutional right to privacy, which at first appeared to be family-based, affords protection to the decisions and actions of individuals outside the marriage union. See also Planned Parenthood v. Danforth, 428 U.S. 52, 96 S.Ct. 2831, 49 L.Ed.2d 788 (1976) (right to abortion cannot be regulated absent a compelling state interest). In Eisenstadt, the Court banned, as unconstitutional, Massachusetts' regulation of contraceptives to single adults. Although the Court's holding was based primarily on equal protection grounds, the Court

also relied on the right to privacy, and wrote:

> It is true that in Griswold the right of privacy in question inhered in the marital relationship. Yet the marital couple is not an independent entity with a mind and a heart of its own, but an association of two individuals each with a separate intellectual and emotional makeup. If the right of privacy means anything, it is the right of the individual, married or single, to be free from unwarranted governmental intrusion into matters so fundamentally affecting a person as the decision whether to bear or beget a child.

Id. at 453, 92 S.Ct. at 1038. Nor can it be said that, through the Eisenstadt opinion, the right to privacy is merely extended to individual decisions regarding procreative choice. Such a statement would ignore the Supreme Court's reliance in Eisenstadt on its earlier opinion in Stanley v. Georgia, 394 U.S. 557, 89 S.Ct. 1243, 22 L.Ed.2d 542 (1969). In Stanley, the Supreme Court held that an individ-

ual's right to view obscene material in the privacy of his or her home could not be regulated by the State. Stanley obviously did not deal with procreative choice within or without marriage, but instead extended the right of privacy to matters of sexual gratification. In addition to citing Stanley, the Court, in Eisenstadt, specifically set out the following quote from the Stanley opinion:

> "[A]lso fundamental is the right to be free, except in very limited circumstances, from unwanted governmental intrusions into one's privacy.
>
> "'The makers of our Constitution undertook to secure conditions favorable to the pursuit of happiness. They recognized the significance of man's spiritual nature, of his feelings and of his intellect. They knew that only a part of the pain, pleasure and satisfactions of life are to be found in material things. They sought to protect Americans in their beliefs, their thoughts, their emotions, and their sensations. They conferred, as against the Government, the right to be let alone-the most comprehensive of rights and the right most valued by civilized

> man.' Olmstead v. United States, 277 U.S. 438, 478, 48 S.Ct. 564, 572, 72 L.Ed. 944 (1928) (Brandeis, J., dissenting)."

Eisenstadt v. Baird, supra 405 U.S. at 453 n. 10, 92 S.Ct. at 1038, n. 10, quoting Stanley v. Georgia, supra 394 U.S. at 564, 89 S.Ct. at 1247.

For the above and foregoing reasons, we are compelled to hold that our decision in Warner v. State, supra, was based on the erroneous premise that the right to privacy is limited to decisions and acts arising in the marital relationship. It now appears to us that the right to privacy, as formulated by the Supreme Court, includes the right to select consensual adult sex partners. Exercise of this right cannot be proscribed by the State in the absence of a compelling justification. Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113, 155, 93 S.Ct. 705, 728, 35 L.Ed.2d 147 (1973). See also

Griswold v. Connecticut, supra 381 U.S. at 497-498, 85 S.Ct. at 1688-1689 (Goldberg, J., concurring).

We recognize it is the opinion of many that abnormal sexual acts, even those involving consenting adults, are morally reprehensible. However, this natural repugnance does not create a compelling justification for state regulation of these activities. The Supreme Court has determined that merely because the purchase and use of contraceptives by unmarried persons would arouse moral indignation among broad segments of the community, or that the use of pornographic materials in the privacy of one's own home would invoke general displeasure, does not provide a compelling justification to regulate either activity. See Eisenstadt v. Baird, supra, and Stanley v. Georgia, supra. The State has failed to demon-

strate that private, consensual acts between adult persons could significantly harm society so as to provide a compelling state interest in the regulation of such activities. The fact that twenty-two states have decriminalized private consensual sodomy between adults further illustrates that no harm to society is presently caused by these sexual acts. See Rivera, Our Straight-Laced Judges: The Legal Position of Homosexual Persons in the United States, 30 Hastings L.J. 799, 950-951 (1979).

We stress that our decision today in no way affects the validity of 21 O.S. 1981, § 886 in its application to bestiality, forced sexual activity, sexual activity of the underaged, or public or commercial sexual acts. We do not reach the question of homosexuality since the application of the statute to such conduct is

not an issue in this case. Our holding today is simply to declare unconstitutional the application of section 886 to the facts of this case.

The convictions herein cannot stand under the principles announced in this opinion. Accordingly, we hold the judgment and sentence on each count of the Crime Against Nature must be reversed and remanded to the District Court for proceedings not inconsistent with this opinion.

II.

Turning to the remaining count of Maiming, we find that it must be reversed as well. Appellant claims he was prejudiced when the trial court refused his requested instructions on the lesser included offenses of simple and aggravated assault and battery. He claims that in-

structions on these lesser offenses were justified by his testimony that he had no intention of injuring the prosecutrix, but simply lashed out when he awoke and found her trying to steal money from his pants.

We have previously held that both simple and aggravated assault and battery are lesser included offenses of maiming, and that, in appropriate cases, instructions as to these lesser offenses should be delivered to the jury. Savage v. State, 525 P.2d 1219 (Okl.Cr.1974). Our Legislature has defined assault as "any willful and unlawful attempt or offer with force or violence to do a corporal injury to another." 21 O.S.1981, § 641. Battery is defined as "any willful and unlawful use of force or violence upon the person of another." 21 O.S.1981, § 642. An assault and battery becomes aggravated "[w]hen great bodily injury is inflicted

upon the person assaulted." 21 O.S.1981, § 646(1). Specific intent is not an element of aggravated assault and battery. State v. Madden, 562 P.2d 1177 (Okl.Cr. 1977). The Legislature has defined Maiming as follows:

> Every person who, with premeditated design to injure another, inflicts upon his person any injury which disfigures his personal appearance or disables any member or organ of his body or seriously diminishes his physical vigor, is guilty of maiming.

21 O.S.1981, § 751. We have accordingly held that a disfiguring injury caused by another does not constitute Maiming unless done "with premeditated design to injure another," which requires a specific intent to inflict an injury, although not necessarily the very disfigurement actually perpetrated. DeArman v. State, 33 Okl.Cr. 79, 242 P. 783 (1926). See also Boulding v. State, 83 Okl.Cr. 352, 177 P.2d 152

(1947). Accord Perkins & Boyce, Criminal Law, 240 (3d Ed.1982). Without proof of specific intent to injure or disfigure, a charge of Maiming is reduced to aggravated assault and battery. See Savage v. State, supra.

In this case, although serious bodily injury resulted to this victim, the appellant maintained he intended to cause no injury. This claim was supported by the testimony of Dr. Townsend, who stated that in H.C.'s situation "any kind of blow would potentially break those sutures [from the previous eye surgery] and cause this kind of injury to have occurred."

We find the trial court erred in its failure to deliver the appellant's requested instruction on the lesser offense of aggravated assault and battery. It is clear that the appellant herein assaulted the victim with his fists, causing great

bodily injury to the eye. We will accordingly reverse and remand for a new trial on the charge of maiming.

The judgment and sentences on each count are hereby REVERSED and REMANDED to the District Court for proceedings not inconsistent with this opinion.

BRETT, J. concurs.

BUSSEY, J. dissents.

BUSSEY, Judge, dissenting:

I must respectfully dissent. This Court has long recognized that consent is not an element of the crime against nature. See, 21 O.S.1981, § 886; Canfield v. State, 506 P.2d 987 (Okl.Cr.1973). Slaughterback v. State, 594 P.2d 780 (Okl. Cr.1979). Clearly, it is a legislative function and not a judicial funtion to amend statutes if a change is to be enacted.

Additionally, I dissent to the reversal of the maiming conviction. Since the victim lost her eye as a result of the attack, the appellant's actions fall squarely within the provisions of 21 O.S.1981, § 751, and the trial court properly denied the appellant's proferred instructions on simple and aggravated assault and battery. Therefore, I am of the opinion that the judgments and sentences should be affirmed.

EDITOR'S NOTE

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No. 85-2071

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER TERM, 1985

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA
Petitioner,

v.

JAMES LESTER POST, JR.
Respondent.

RESPONSE TO PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

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ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

July 1986

Summary of Argument:

The decision of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals should be upheld as it is in keeping with prior decisions of this Court, and to reverse the lower court's ruling would require this Court to hold that no right to privacy exists under the United States Constitution.

Reasons For Denying The Petition

The Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals reversed Appellant's conviction for Sodomy on the grounds that private, non-commercial, consensual, heterosexual, oral and anal sex between consenting adults is protected from State regulation absent a compelling State interest. Petitioner does not claim the State of Oklahoma has any interest whatsoever in regulating such conduct. Instead Petitioner asks this Court to abolish the constitutionally protected right to privacy.

Petitioner asks this Court to abolish "the most comprehensive of rights

and the right most valued by civilized man" **Olmstead v. United States**, 227 U.S. 438, 478 (1928) (Brandeis, J. dissenting) in order to subject any sexual practice to even the most "unjustified governmental interference." (Petitioner's Brief at page 10). However, this Court has stoutly defended the right of individuals to be free from "unjustified" intrusions into their personal lives. Therefore the precedents set down by this Court in cases such as **Roe v. Wade**, 410 U.S. 113, 117 (1973); and **Stanley v. Georgia**, 394 U.S. 557 (1969) should be followed and the Petition denied.

CONCLUSION

This Court should uphold the constitutionally protected right to privacy. Towards that end it should deny the petition.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES LESTER POST, JR.

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